

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2007 in the above-identified application. Concurrently with this Amendment, Applicant submits a petition for a three-month extension of time for filing a response, along with the requisite fee and the authorization to charge our Deposit Account 50-0552 for any fee deficiencies. The time for filing a response to the August 28, 2007 Office Action is thereby extended to February 28, 2008, and this Amendment is being timely filed.

Claims 15, 21, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Munson, U.S. Patent No. 3,268,192. Claims 15, 17, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bertani, U.S. Patent No. 4,574,503. Claims 15, 17, 20, 21, 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398. Claims 17, 20-23, 26 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Strewer, 23 17 899.6.

Claims 18, 19, 24, and 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 15, 24 and 26 have been amended. Claims 23 and 25 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1 to 14 and 16 were previously cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 15, 17 to 22, 24 and 26 to 29 are currently pending.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

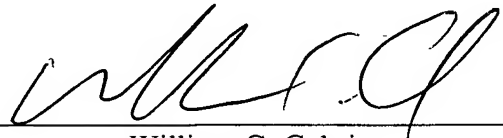
Claim 15 now recites the limitations of allowable claim 25.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claim 15 and its dependent claims 17 to 22, 24 and 26 to 29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: 
William C. Gehris
(Reg. No. 38,156)

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC
485 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10018
(212) 736-1940